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(54) AIR ASSISTED SKI WITH AIR RECEIVING VENTS

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No. OF CLAIMS 8

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An air-assisted ski for snow or water having a plurality of air receiving vents opening into longitudinally disposed grooves on the running surface of the ski, the air receiving vents acting to force air into the grooves to improve the forward motion of the ski.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

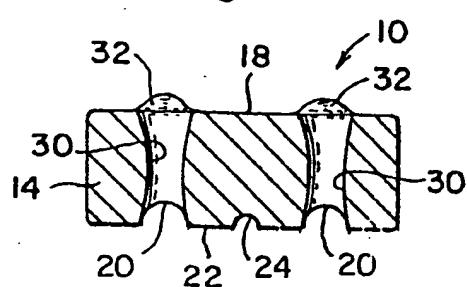
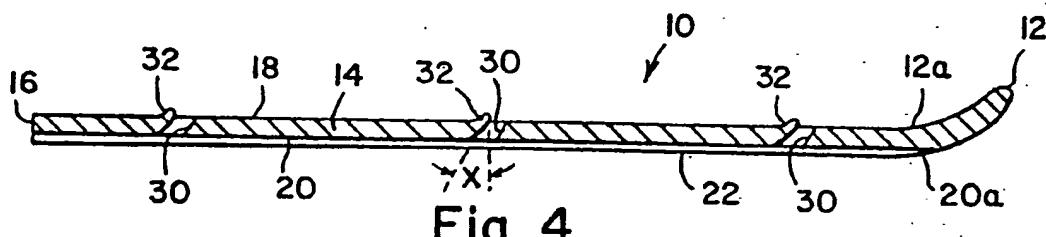
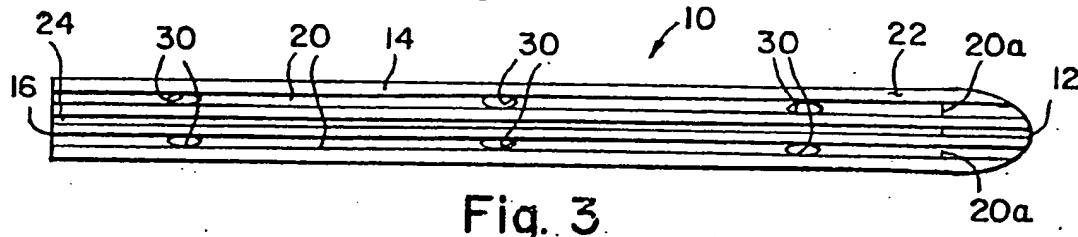
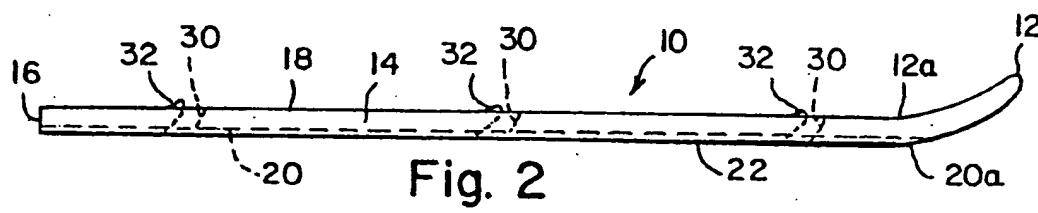
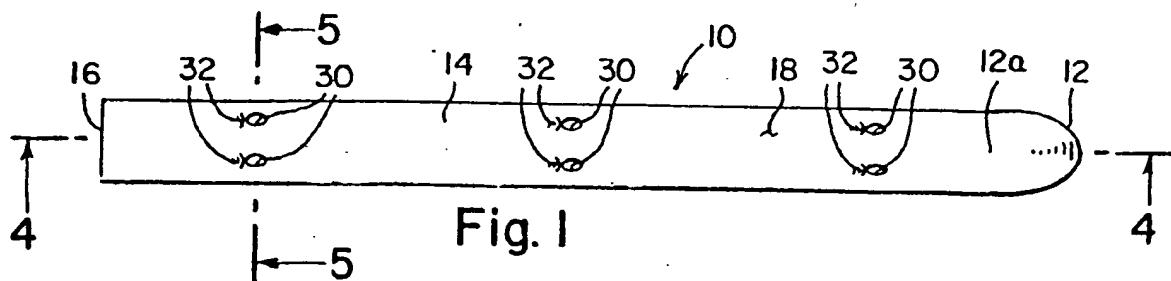
1. An air-assisted ski comprising an elongated flat ski body having an upwardly curved forward end and a flat terminal end, a top surface providable with foot and boot securing means and an undersurface runningly contactable with a skiing base, a pair of transversely spaced, longitudinally extending, opposing parallel grooves being provided on said undersurface terminating at one end at said flat terminal end and terminating at the other end generally vertically below the beginning of said upwardly curved forward end of said ski body, at least one pair of parallel opposing air vents being provided on said top surface of said ski body registerable with and opening into said parallel grooves at an angle inclined from the vertical towards said curved forward end, said air vents being further provided with a raised portion extending from the rear of said air vents so that air sweeping past said vents will be intercepted by said raised portion and forcibly induced into said air vents and into said parallel grooves to create a cushion of air upon which said undersurface at least partially rides.
2. A ski according to Claim 1 wherein said air vents are oval shaped and comprise three pairs, said inclined angle from the vertical is between about 10 to 15 degrees.

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3. A ski according to Claim 1 wherein said angle is about 11 degrees.
4. A ski according to Claim 1 wherein intermediate said parallel grooves there is provided, in a generally central location on said undersurface a longitudinally extending center groove terminating in generally the same location as said parallel grooves.
5. A ski according to Claim 2 wherein said three pairs of air vents are uniformly longitudinally spaced.
6. A ski according to Claim 5 wherein said ski body is dividable into approximately imaginary one-third sections and each pair of said air vents is generally centrally located in said one-third section.
7. A ski according to Claim 2 wherein said parallel opposing grooves are shaped to form semi-circular channels.
8. A ski according to Claim 4 wherein said parallel opposing and center grooves are shaped to form semi-circular channels, said parallel opposing grooves having a larger diameter than said center groove.



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